

Answers to Questions Received during the “Tracking Opportunity Through eBuy” Industry Webinar on March 11, 2020

Could you explain the difference between eBuy and beta SAM.gov

beta.SAM.gov is a portal for contractors to register their business with GSA. Buyers can search for businesses and find basic information. From the SAM.Gov site industry can:

- Register to do business with the U.S. government
- Update or renew your entity registration
- Check status of an entity registration
- Search for entity registration and exclusion records

[eBuy](https://eBuy.gsa.gov) is a Request for Quote/Request for Information site that connects buyers and contractors for products and services. From the eBuy site buyers can:

- Post requirements and receive quotes electronically on millions of products and services
- Find sources of supply
- Seek information
- Procure complex requirements by attaching statements of work
- Request large dollar items
- Establish Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) pricing

If a requirement is posted on eBuy will the buyer also need to post on beta.SAM.gov?

Buyers do not have to crosspost from eBuy to beta.sam

Once you sign the MAS modification are you eligible to bid on any opportunity that falls under the consolidated Special Item Number (SIN)?

- Vendors who have *not yet accepted the mass modification* (and still have the old legacy SINs), will be able to see RFQ opportunities under the new MAS Consolidated SINs based on the crosswalk table.
- Vendors who *have accepted the mass mod* (and now have the new MAS Consolidated SINs) will be able to see RFQ Opportunities under the old legacy SINs based on the crosswalk table.

On my GSA opportunities page, I am seeing the SIN/Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) numbers, does that mean those have been added automatically due to conversion?

Yes. eBuy will display open RFQ opportunities which include both the new MAS SINs and the corresponding legacy SINs.

Will the email notifications we receive for new or amended opportunities change in frequency during this transition?

You may experience a slight increase in notifications due to the crosswalk being used during the transition period.

We are a federal contractor with a Professional Services (00CORP) or MAS 520 Schedule. If we see any RFQs on eBuy after we login for NAICS 541611 (our main NAICS code), should we assume we are eligible for bidding?

GSA has built a crosswalk into eBuy that during this transition will display RFQs submitted under your legacy schedule/SIN and the corresponding crosswalk MAS SIN. A company has the opportunity, even

though you have not accepted the mass modification, to quote on RFQs under the new MAS schedule.
Note - assuming question is referring to new MAS SIN 541611.

The link listed for the add SINS does not show the topic you have addressed.

When adding a SIN, eBuy does not assume that the user will use the same search terms to find a SIN as the first time. For instance, an RFQ is for tables and televisions which are both under different SINS. We leave this completely up to the user to enter the keywords for finding another SIN or category.

How will this change in MAS/SIN help buyers/contractors?

Buyers will get access to a contractor's full suite of awarded offerings on the new single Schedule, making it easier to find and buy solutions that meet their mission requirements. It's easier for buyers to purchase total solutions. Contractors will ensure that they get access to the right opportunities.

As current contractors, will we receive notification once MAS is fully implemented on eBuy?

MAS is slated for full implementation on July 31, 2020. Starting August 1, the old legacy schedules will no longer be able to be used on RFQs, everything will begin being posted to the new MAS.

Previously under financial services there were multiple SINS for audits, now it appears they are all under one SIN in MAS. Does that mean that we will not be able to compete on all audits within the new SIN without requesting to add additional services to our contract?

Please direct any specific questions regarding new MAS SINS to the MAS Program Management Office (PMO) office at maspmo@gsa.gov

Will old SINS disappear or will they be converted to the new SIN structure in July/August?

MAS is slated for full implementation on July 31, 2020. Starting August 1, the old legacy Schedules will no longer be accessible.

We've already moved over to MAS and on eBuy, we've seen additional RFP's, I've noticed under category that many are assigned to 541611, which is a NAICS code, but it does not necessary match back to FABS or other categories as it relates to the new MAS. Is this how we will see it moving forward or is this being updated?

Please direct any specific questions regarding new MAS SINS to the MAS PMO office at maspmo@gsa.gov

What is the new NAICS structure? How do we view cross check data?

You can download the crosswalk table at https://www.gsa.gov/cdnstatic/MAS%20Available%20Offerings_GSAgov%2012820.xlsx This spreadsheet allows one to view the crosswalk from existing legacy schedules/SINS to the new MAS.

If we would like to change the ADMIN on our eBuy account, how would we go about doing that?

Under your eBuy profile, you may add or remove any POCs as necessary.

How do I consolidate eBuy notices for several different vehicles?

Under your eBuy profile, if your company has more than one contract with GSA, you may associate additional contracts to an account so that you can have a single login to eBuy for all your contracts.

Do the buyers prefer that we respond with "No quote" if it does not apply to our services. And if so, will that impact future RFQs sent to us?

Feedback from our customer community has indicated that the customers like that vendors are honest and provide a response, even a No Quote response. Please note that eBuy allows you to enter a reason response to the buyer.

Is the Transactional Data Rule (TDR) mandatory for all sins now?

No. It is only applicable to some SINS, meaning you have to offer those SINS to even get the option to participate in TDR.

In our eBuy system that our Professional Services Schedule SS contract does not have any open RFQs for the FABS SINS (520-6, 520-11, 541110, 541219) we added to our contract. When we first got them approved there were several open RFQs but now there's literally not one open RFQ for any of them. I'm concerned there may be an issue with the system where we're not receiving them anymore. Can you tell me who can assist to make sure we're not losing out on business opportunities?

Please reach out to the Contracting Officer associated with FABS SINS/NAICS for further assistance.

I'm looking at my profile and see SINS that I'm familiar with and then others I don't recognize. What should I do? Is my profile a good spot to check to see what has been updated?

eBuy automatically includes both the new MAS SINS and the crosswalked legacy SINS in the listing. Vendors may experience a situation where you are now presented with additional SINS because of the crosswalk.

How can I save and highlight particular opportunities and get notified about those?

There is a feature available called "watching" that will flag and also provide you with notifications when any updates are made by the buyer on the RFQ.

Our firm migrated to MAS, and was awarded a new contract for professional services (environmental consulting/contracting) in Dec 2019. We've submitted our catalog to GSA for the new contract, but we're told there is a backlog and it will take weeks to get it reviewed and posted. In the meantime, we can't respond to RFPs/RFQs as the new contract isn't linked to eBuy. What are our options to begin marketing the new contract and responding to requests on eBuy?

Please contact the Vendor Support Center at 877-495-4849 or vendor.support@gsa.gov. They can provide you with details on the status of your catalog upload.

Will the eBuy website format change?

Yes, the format/layout of the eBuy seller site will change in the near future. The new format will look similar to the eBuy Buyer portal.

Will the updated eBuy website be live on July 31, 2020?

July 31 is the deadline for accepting the mass modification. This is the final transition date to the consolidated schedule. Vendors who have not submitted a mass modification by this time may lose temporary access to 1) listing their products on GSA Advantage, 2) listing their business on eLibrary, and 3) viewing opportunities on eBuy, until the criteria are met.

The eBuy seller site refresh does not have a go-live date currently. GSA will communicate to the vendor community prior to release.

Will there be a single sign-on capability so one can use the same credentials to log into beta.SAM.gov and eBuy?

GSA is exploring the capabilities of single sign-on between multiple systems, but at this time there are no formal plans to expand single-sign on beyond its current state.

Once the mass modification and transition to the single Schedule is complete will there be another webinar to just show how the system interface will look and recap how it will work, etc? Will legacy info still be available?

The legacy Schedules information will not be available after July 31, 2020. Vendors will need to complete the mass modification update process on or before this date to maintain access to eBuy and RFQ opportunities. Any RFQs posted prior to July 31 that are open after July 31 will only be viewable under the MAS consolidated SIN. They will no longer appear under the legacy SIN. Join the [MAS PMO GSA Interact site](#) for up to date information on MAS consolidation and the changes occurring in July.

In eBuy, when will GSA Schedule holders be able to view SINs/categories not on their Schedule?

There are no planned changes to the rules of RFQ visibility. Until we get guidance on FAS decisions, it will remain that vendors can only see RFQs in their awarded SINs.

Have you seen or heard of any cases where companies have lost visibility to opportunities under a SIN? For example, we were recently awarded financial services SINs and while we saw related opportunities at first (which were all dated at least 30 days out), they are no longer visible.

Vendors should not lose opportunities due to the new SIN structure. All of the legacy SINs are crosswalked to a new consolidated SIN. Any opportunity posted under the legacy SIN will appear under the new consolidated SIN, based on the crosswalk.

Thank you for working to enhance the contractor user interface experience. For HCaTS in particular will the government please include on the RFQ view the Base contract number associated with the RFQ? This will assist contractors who possess more than one HCaTS pool contract. Currently the RFQ view for HCaTS lists the category name but not the HCaTS Base Contract number.

I will follow up with the HCaTS program coordinator so that I can better understand what is possible for us to deliver. Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

For HCaTS in particular will the government please provide an additional button to enable the user to indicate a proposal has been submitted externally to eBuy. Sometimes solicitation submission instructions indicate to submit via email and not via eBuy? In those circumstances eBuy reflects a no bid and with the no-bid status the solicitation is not reflected in the "My Quotes" section which makes it difficult to track within eBuy after the proposal is submitted.

Thank you for the feedback. We encourage all of our users to use the eBuy tool as much as possible to track the RFQ submission and award process. We will continue to work with user outreach to deliver this message.

Our company has answered a few SSN and RFQ and haven't received feedback. We have emailed the buyer with no response. We understand we should hear something within 15 days of the RFQ close. Does GSA have any influence to request buyers to follow through?

Buyers are encouraged to follow up and reply to all opportunities that are submitted in eBuy. There may be some instances where the requesting buyer is unresponsive. We will continue to work with user outreach to promote active response behavior from our user community.

Our company has responded to several opportunities. They still show pending on our quotes page. If an opportunity is cancelled wouldn't the customer let us know? Also, two of these opportunities crossed over the fiscal year. Are they still valid and active opportunities that we have submitted quotes for?

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